(b) if so, whether some of the officials of RSP in charge of modernisation have been found involved in corruption to the tune of crores;

(c) what steps Government are proposing to take against such officials;

(d) whether any MD of RSP at the time of modernisation is found involved in any such a deal;

(e) if so, the steps taken against the MD; and

(f) the reasons for the failure of RSP after spending such a huge amount in modernisation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK): (a) and (f) Modernisation schemes in Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) are at an advanced stage of completion. The modernised units are under stabilisation and thereafter the performance of RSP is expected to improve. However, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has suffered losses during the last three years.

The main reasons for decline in profits in RSP (SAIL) include slow down in demand for steel, greater competition from imports, and enhancement in supplies in domestic market etc.. Further, the profits were adversely affected due to increase in input prices and higher interest & depreciation burden which could not be fully neutralised by better techno-economic Parameters, cost reduction measures and increase in the prices of steel etc..

(b) to (e) The allegations regarding modernisation in RSP were examined by SAIL Corporate Vigilance but none of the allegations was proved.

Pilferage of chromite ores in Orissa

1667. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale pilferage of chromite ores from Sukinda Valley in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps to ensure adequate measures to check the pilferage of chromite ores; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey for minerals in Gujarat

1666. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been undertaken by the Geological Department to locate various minerals in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Geological Survey of India, Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. and State Directorate of Geology and Mining, Gujarat are the main agencies engaged in mineral surveys/investigations in Gujarat. The surveys have been carried out for basemetal, bauxite, lignite, limestone, industrial clay, marble, graphite rock phosphate, dimension stone, silica sand and wollastonite etc. The surveys have established reserves of minerals in the State which are furnished in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Question does not arise.

Statement

Survey for Minerals in Gujarat

Mineral	Unit	Recoverable Reserves
Ball Clay	'000t	50
Bauxite	"	117325
Bentonite	"	89572
Calcite	Tonne	6890

Mineral	Unit	Recoverable Reserves
Chinaclay	'000t	31338
Copper Ore	'000t	8124
Metal	"	113
Distonite	"	488
Dolomite	"	509686
Fireclay	"	62567
Fluorite	"	843
Granite	'000t	23560
Graphite	Tonne	16644
Gypsum	'000t	9998
Lead-Zinc Ore	"	7876
Pb-Metal	"	203
Zn-Metal	"	305
Limestone	"	9037337
Manganese Ore	"	1477
Marble	"	10920
Ochre	"	2579
Rock Phosphate	"	19
Quartz/silica Sand	"	44549
Talc/Steatite	"	7
Vermiculite	Tonne	1568
Wollastonite	'000t	1493
Lignite	m. tonnes	1522.29

Scheme Under UPAP

1669. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various schemes under Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme going on in the country;

(b) the budget allocation made for these programmes and amount actually provided to each of the last three years;

(c) the criteria fixed for distribution of fund to State Governments;

(d) the number of people benefited thereby in each of the States during the above period; and

(c) the details of the future plan of Government for alleviation of urban poverty in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) has been launched on 1.12.97 subsuming the earlier UPA Programmes, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP). The SJSRY seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor through encouraging the setting up of self employment ventures or provision of wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. The programme targets the urban poor living below the poverty line, as defined from time to time.

(b) Funds allocated and released to the States under SJSRY are as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Allocation	Release
1997-98	9862.92	9862.92
1998-99	18320.00	6458.66 (Upto November, 1998)

(c) The Central funds are distributed among the States on the basis of incidence of urban poverty in each State/UT.

(d) The Statement showing State-wise beneficiaries under SJSRY is given below.

(e) The SJSRY will continue during the Ninth Plan and its impact on urban poverty would depend on the annual budgetary allocation to be decided by the Planning Commission and the implementation by the States.